

than \$5 million wound up with Daniel Forman, a well-respected Miami defense lawyer, as legal fees to represent Mr. Ramon and 18 other accused traffickers.

Mr. Forman appears to have played an important role in Mr. Vega's final months as an informant. The defense attorney was brought into the case at the insistence of the DEA's Mr. Tinsley, who needed someone who would move the plea negotiations along without raising a lot of objections, according to Mr. Vega. The informant says he quickly became "50-50 partners" with the defense attorney, with Mr. Vega herding in clients and splitting the fees with Mr. Forman. Flight manifests show that Mr. Forman flew several times from Panama to Florida in the company of Messrs. Vega and Castillo.

Mr. Forman, in an e-mail, strongly denied that Mr. Vega relayed legal fees to him, adding that "Mr. Vega is not, and has never been, my partner in any sense of the word." He declines to comment on his clients, except to say that the government didn't attempt to interfere with his representation of them.

Mr. Tinsley's lawyer, Mr. Sharpstein, says his client brought Mr. Forman into the case because he had worked with Mr. Forman when the latter was a federal prosecutor and then as a defense attorney. "He trusts Forman and still believes in him," says Mr. Sharpstein.

As for the financial arrangements, Mr. Sharpstein says Mr. Tinsley had no idea Mr. Vega was receiving money from traffickers, and wouldn't have allowed it had he known. Mr. Tinsley's understanding was that Mr. Vega would receive a percentage of the value of assets seized by law enforcement, a more-traditional method of compensating informants, says Mr. Sharpstein. "Unfortunately," he adds, "it's not in writing."

Apart from the controversy over money, Mr. Vega's wheeling and dealing caused rising tension in the law-enforcement community. Under a 10-year-old program, all co-operation agreements with major drug traffickers are supposed to be cleared through the Justice Department's secretive "Blitz Committee" to ensure that criminals don't pit one agency or prosecutor against another in search of the best deal. A senior committee member declines to comment on Mr. Vega.

But federal agents outside Mr. Tinsley's small DEA group grew increasingly upset as Mr. Vega breezed through their turf. One was Ed Kacerosky, a driven and highly decorated U.S. Customs agent known for his work leading to the 1997 indictment of the Cali cocaine cartel.

#### \$60 MILLION FOR VISAS

Now a supervisor in the agency's Miami office, Mr. Kacerosky didn't take it well when Mr. Vega tried to help the daughter of late Cali drug lord Jose Santacruz obtain U.S. resident visas for her family. At a meeting brokered by Mr. Vega and attended by Mr. Kacerosky and other U.S. officials, Sandra Santacruz offered to give the U.S. half of some \$120 million her family held in accounts around the world in exchange for the visas, say U.S. officials. The U.S. turned down the offer.

Last year, Mr. Kacerosky became enraged upon learning that Mr. Vega had approached Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela, a former leader of the Cali cartel, in a Colombian prison. People familiar with the matter say Mr. Vega offered to help Mr. Rodriguez Orejuela's son William—under indictment in Miami on U.S. drug charges—in return for information on possible high-level Colombian police corruption.

Mr. Kacerosky, these people say, blames William Rodriguez for the brutal 1995 torture and killing of the wife of a key informant. After the prison meeting, these people say, Mr. Kacerosky wrote an eight-page memo to his superiors sparking the investigation of Mr. Vega.

Mr. Vega's activities also played into a growing feud between the DEA's Bogota detachment and Mr. Tinsley's Miami-based crew. The Colombia-based agents largely responsible for last year's Millennium indictment were unhappy that the alleged criminals they had long been stalking were working out deals with Miami-based agents appearing to poach on their turf with Mr. Vega's help.

Hearing on Oct. 21, 1999, that Bogota-based DEA agents were heading for Panama to crash the Miramar dealer summit, Mr. Vega says he and Mr. Tinsley cleared the traffickers out of the hotel for fear of their arrest.

"There's a common distrust between DEA Bogota and DEA Miami," says Mr. Sharpstein, Mr. Tinsley's lawyer. "The Bogota agents were jealous of Miami agents racking up these cases."

Today, Mr. Vega is officially off limits to U.S. law enforcement. When the FBI charged him in March, authorities froze a Miami bank account in his name containing \$1.5 million. Though most condemn Mr. Vega's alleged illegal enrichment some agents believe his fall is undeserved after such a long career in a world whose common coin is often a violent death.

As fear and controversy swirl around him, Mr. Vega sits in his Miami Beach penthouse, wearing an ankle monitoring device and fielding phone calls from models in Greece and designers in Paris. "I will be in Miami for the rest of the season. Same place, same apartment," he tells a model who calls to commiserate, "I have a bunch of pictures for you. They used the one with the bathing suit. It looks very nice."

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S CHILLING WINTER FORECAST

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the winter months, the Energy Information Agency of the U.S. Department of Energy (EIA) delivered the cold facts on December 6th in its "Short-Term Energy Outlook for December 2000." The bottom line is that prices for home heating oil and natural gas will rise this winter—considerably.

While the EIA's report is written in approximations, averages, and technical language, its message resonates loud and clear with our constituents and those residing in the Northeast—that their heating oil bills may increase by more than 33 percent from last winter. Furthermore, it is predicted that those whose homes and businesses are heated by natural gas are likely to see an increase of 50 percent in their utility bills this winter over last winter's.

The reasons EIA give for the projected increases are: lower than average heating oil and natural gas reserves, an increase in demand versus available supply, and the onset of colder weather, earlier in the season. The

American Gas Association reports that while exploratory drilling for natural gas has tripled over the past year, it will take another year or more before that gas will make its way into the marketplace. Another factor effecting home heating oil prices, a distillate of crude oil, is the relatively high price per barrel of crude. In this regard, our dependency on foreign oil, specifically from the OPEC nations, hurts us.

Mr. Speaker, the situation with OPEC is not any new issue. Our House International Relations Committee as well as the Government Reform Committee have held hearings on OPEC and their affecting the exorbitant costs of energy. I have called upon President Clinton, Secretaries Albright and Richardson, and to OPEC Ministers before their meeting last September urging their assistance. The theme was the same, the price of energy is too high and is hurting our nation and others, and it must come down.

While OPEC has agreed to increase production, it is difficult to ascertain by how much and what effect that increase will make on the price of oil. Thus far, the price of imported crude oil remains over \$30 per barrel, and OPEC's increase in production has done little or nothing to stabilize the prices for heating oil, or significantly reduce the price per barrel of imported crude oil to an acceptable level for both consumers and producers. The oil market remains volatile and prolonged cold weather could easily result in prices soaring to the \$40 per barrel, ten-year highs of a few months ago. This is substantiated by EIA's following statement.

The EIA states: "unless the winter in the Northeast is unusually mild or world crude oil prices drop significantly, the projected high prices for heating oil will continue until next spring." The EIA further reports that, "a risk exists this winter for distillate fuel (home heating oil and diesel fuel) price spikes similar to what happened last February, especially if the weather stays unusually cold in the Northeast for more than a few days." The EIA once again underscores that mother nature plays a significant role in determining the price of energy.

Mr. Speaker, the next Administration must create and implement a strategic, coherent, forward looking short and long-term energy policy that takes winter weather into consideration when formulating a national policy. Notwithstanding the current Administration's failure to enact an energy policy that makes sense for the American people, there are short-term measures that we can take to make our homes more energy efficient this winter.

Regardless of how our houses are heated, there are certain steps that can lower the cost of our heating bills: checking doors and windows for leaks and drafts; wrapping the hot water boiler with insulated material; clean filters on forced air furnaces; making sure that fireplaces are clean and working efficiently, and if they are not being used, making sure that the flues are sealed; installing a programmable thermostat, and caulking and adding weather stripping where needed.

Mr. Speaker, as the price of energy continues to rise, no one should have to decide whether to feed their family or to heat their home. There are programs such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

(LIHEAP), for which I have been a strong advocate. LIHEAP is designed to assist our low income families with the costs of energy. As the Department of Health and Human Services states, depending on the LIHEAP grant-ee, LIHEAP can be used for: heating assistance, cooling assistance, energy crisis intervention, and weatherization and other energy-related home repairs. If constituents are having trouble paying for the high costs of energy, they should not hesitate to contact their Member of Congress to find out if they qualify for LIHEAP assistance.

While the EIA projects that the price of energy this winter may rise by as much as 50 percent, it is important for our constituents to know that no one should have to choose between eating or heating.

---

IN MEMORY OF FRANK HEBROCK

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2000*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay special tribute to Frank Hebrock, a Leesburg High School teacher and former Lake County Schools Superintendent candidate, who passed away on October 14, 2000. He leaves his wife, Bernie Hebrock, his son Scott and his brother Bill. Mr. Hebrock was a talented and committed teacher and was greatly loved and respected by his family, friends, students, and colleagues.

Born in Cambridge, OH, where he attended high school, Mr. Hebrock later went on to major in education at the University of Ohio. After leaving Cambridge, he taught in Tallahassee and for the past five years in Leesburg, FL, he taught American and world history. Revered for his dedication, Mr. Hebrock exhibited a selfless commitment to his students both in and out of the classroom. He was devoted to actively involving students in their history lessons, and at the same time, equally devoted to fostering the students' physical well-being through his work as assistant football coach and junior varsity baseball coach at Leesburg High School. In addition, Mr. Hebrock combined his interest in government with his conviction in providing the highest quality of education to our area's schools by running for superintendent of the Lake County school system.

Mr. Speaker, our community has truly suffered a great loss. We will all remember his outstanding contributions and are forever grateful for his shining leadership in the field of education. I would like to express my deepest condolences to his family, coworkers, and all of the students whose lives he so profoundly touched.

---

HONORING ANGELO TOMASSO, JR.

**HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2000*

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to recognize a milestone in

the life of one of Connecticut's most treasured citizens. After serving for over 40 years in virtually every officer position and on every committee of New Britain General Hospital, Angelo Tomasso, Jr., has decided to retire from the Hospital's Board of Directors.

To read a list of Angelo's accomplishments and activities is to bear witness to a life spent in the service of others. Whether it was as a soldier, entrepreneur, parent, philanthropist, or dedicated volunteer, Angelo has brought to every phase of his life the caring and understanding of a man who embraces his responsibility to better the lives of his neighbors, community, and State.

Angelo's impact on New Britain General Hospital goes far beyond the work he did as a member of the Board of Directors. As the president of one of Connecticut's largest construction firms, Angelo set an example of the sense of responsibility business owners should have in keeping healthy the communities they serve. In being so generous with his time, Angelo has always showed that there is no one who can honestly say they are "too busy" to serve.

When we say that Angelo Tomasso helped build New Britain General Hospital, we mean so much more than the bricks and mortar of a new wing. Through his generosity, commitment and fine example of civic service, Angelo has proven himself to be a man who helped create the reputation of New Britain General as one of the finest hospitals in the area. I feel privileged to call him my friend and I thank him for all he continues to do for our hospital and city.

---

H.R. 4828

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2000*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues my understanding of the land exchanges regarding the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (H.R. 4828) that was debated on the House Floor on October 4, 2000.

I would like the record to indicate that the cash payments to the ranchers were designed to compensate the payees for severance damages to their remaining property. I want it to be clear that these payments are being made for economic losses that the ranchers are suffering from their dislocation as a result of the creation of this Wilderness.

H.R. 4828 was supported by the entire Oregon congressional delegation and is the product of a long and hard-fought battle to ensure that there was an Oregon solution to an Oregon issue.

---

THE MONOCLE RESTAURANT

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor and recognize The Monocle

restaurant in Washington, DC. The Monocle was founded in 1960 by "Connie" Valanos and his father, veteran restaurateur George Valanos. Today, the restaurant is owned and operated by Connie's son, John Valanos. This year The Monocle celebrates its 40th anniversary.

The Monocle is one of our nation's Capital's finest dining establishments. It has been one of the few restaurants that, year after year, helps set the standard for fine dining in Washington, DC. The food, ambience, and courteous staff all contribute to make a visit to The Monocle one to remember and cherish, as have so many of our nation's political leaders for 40 years.

The Monocle's location and building are further reminders of the unique history of which the restaurant has become a significant part.

I join many of my colleagues in recognizing the owners and the employees of The Monocle, as it celebrates 40 years of culinary excellence in Washington, DC.

---

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ROSLYN GLANTZ TROJAN

**HON. ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2000*

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, my friend and former constituent, Colonel Roslyn Glantz Trojan, is retiring after 29 years of exemplary active federal service in the United States Army. She has served our country with dignity, honor, and integrity.

Colonel Glantz Trojan, a native of Annapolis, Maryland, is a 1971 graduate of Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in History and a 1981 graduate of George Washington University with a Masters of Business Administration. In 1972, she entered the Army through the Officer Direct Commission Program. After Officer Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, she was assigned to the Combat Surveillance and Electronics School at Fort Huachuca, Arizona as a administrative officer.

Soon thereafter, Colonel Glantz Trojan was selected to serve as an Operations Officer and Officer Recruiter at the Army District Recruiting Command in New Orleans, Louisiana. From 1976 to 1979, Colonel Glantz Trojan served in the 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, first as a division logistician and then as a Company Commander in the Division Support Command.

Following her advanced military and civilian schooling, she was nominated to the Army Staff in 1981, where she served as Team Chief, Tactical and Non-Tactical Wheeled Vehicle Program. Colonel Glantz Trojan left the Pentagon in 1984 to join the staff of the 2nd Infantry Division in Camp Casey, Korea. She left Korea to attend the Armed Forces Staff College.

From 1986 to 1987, Colonel Glantz Trojan served a joint duty assignment at the United States Readiness Command, MacDill Air Force Base. As the first J-4 for a newly formed Joint Task Force, she planned the deployment of forces and the employment of logistics for the CINC's operational plan. Colonel